

OLD EGYPT'S QUEEN.

Magnificent Presentation of "Cleopatra" Last Night

BY FANNY DAVENPORT AND COMPANY.

Rehearsal Never Before Equalled in Topeka—Something About Miss Davenport Herself.

Rehearsal of "Cleopatra" was given at the Grand last night by Fanny Davenport and her company in a manner that has never been equalled in this city by any presentation of any play. The audience was a tremendous one, and it was highly pleased. Miss Davenport and Melbourne MacDowell were called before the curtain twice during the evening.

It was about half past seven when the two actors entered the opera house and went to their respective dressing rooms, each accompanied by a servant who assisted in their make-up for the stage.

It was five minutes of eight when the orchestra began an overture, and a few minutes past eight the curtain arose on the first scene in "Cleopatra." Mark Antony and Cleopatra both appear in this scene, and were enthusiastically received.

Miss Davenport is exceedingly attractive on the stage, and her voice is admirably suited to "Cleopatra." In some other particulars, Miss Davenport does not seem fitted for the part, yet she puts a creditable amount of intelligence and energy into it. To those who have seen her in modern dramas, she seems better suited to those than in the role of the Egyptian queen.

In her meeting with Antony in the first act, after the arrival of the burglar, her acting was quiet but effective. In the second act, the development of the play assumes full growth. It represents the palace of Kamoss and both its splendor and the capabilities of the cast will long be remembered.

The third act, in which Cleopatra learns of Antony's marriage to Octavia, from her slaves, affords Miss Davenport the fullest scope for her tragic powers, but it cannot be said that she proves herself fully capable of sustaining the role. The outburst of passion at the news, her mad-dont passion as she believes herself a woman wronged and her complete exhaustion after her long periods of grief, are all well done but do not approach genius. The questioning of the messenger concerning the charms of Octavia was inimitable. It was perfect. This it was that won Miss Davenport a certain vail.

Melbourne MacDowell, as Mark Antony, fulfilled the ideal of the ancient Roman, both in physique and voice.

"Cleopatra" depends largely on its scenic grandeur for its success.

Frank Willard, the stage manager, had full sway on the stage, but hardly a shadow was given to the stage carpenters who traveled with the company, for by advice as to the proper placing of the scenery, Colburn lights, stationed in the wings and in the rear of the stage furnished the light and charming effects.

The beautiful scene of the terrace of Memphis in the third act, and the twinkling stars over the city, which have never been in this city. The storm scene in act 3, was impressive, but it was a simple thing to present both of them.

The twinkling stars were made by jules in the rear-drapery and Colburn lights behind them.

The lightning flash was caused by bringing the lines in contact, to the ends of which were attached electric wires. The thunder was made by drums and the customary sheet from suspended from the ceiling. The sharp cracking of thunder was done with gunpowder.

"Cleopatra" will be repeated again this evening, and tomorrow, evening "La Tosca" will be given.

ABOUT MISS DAVENPORT. She Has Made a Fortune of Half a Million by Her Art.

Fanny Davenport, besides being one of the greatest American actresses, is one of the best theatrical managers in the country. She is the sole manager, stage director and owner of her productions, and personally employs her actors.

It was in 1882 that she paid Sardinou \$25,000 in government bonds for the play "Cleopatra," and about December, 1884, she has presented it almost to the exclusion of all other plays.

The play was presented on the twenty-second of December, 1891, at the Fifth Avenue theater in New York, and on the fifth night of the season's engagement every one, including all of the music and practically everything was destroyed by fire, and the company and company, with in the play, left, were all secured in three weeks after this fire.

In private life Miss Davenport is Mrs. Melbourne MacDowell. She is about 40 years old. A year ago she built a \$200,000 cottage at Haverhill, Mass., where she spends her summers, and at that home she and Mr. MacDowell spend a great deal of their time on the sea coast in their own yacht.

Besides this home they have a cottage at Santa Monica, California, and another one at Canton, Pennsylvania, the home of Miss Davenport's childhood.

During her theatrical season she is the busiest one in the company and sees to every detail of the management of the production. Today she has been mapping out her tour of next year. She speaks very well for her ability, as she has made in the last six years a fortune of a half million of dollars.

She is very liberal and spends no expense to make every production perfect in detail. The last few years she has never played to less than a \$175,000 house.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Items of Interest about Topeka People and Visitors in Town.

A masque will be given Wednesday evening, February 21, at the home of Miss Cordelia Price, for the benefit of the First Presbyterian choir. A very entertaining programme is being prepared and some of the best local musicians will take part, among them, Mrs. Geo. Parkhurst, Miss Margaret Hara, Mrs. Norman Wely, Miss Norton, Messrs. H. V. Hinckley, and Thomas Moore.

A pleasant surprise was given Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lord, Saturday evening, it being Mrs. Lord's sixtieth birthday. About thirty of their intimate friends and relatives were present. Refreshments were the principal amusement. Refreshments were served at 11 o'clock and all went home wishing Mrs. Lord many happy returns of the day. She was also the recipient of several very nice presents.

Miss Mary Carson, who has been visiting her cousin, Messrs. Madge and Mabel Johnson, returned yesterday to her home in Joplin, Mo.

Dr. and Mrs. Black of Ottawa spent Sunday with Mrs. A. A. Rogers. Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Moon accompanied them home yesterday to spend a few days.

Mrs. Kattale and Fred Lakia will visit Mrs. Arthur Mills this week. Miss Hatlie and Fred Lakia of Emporia are visiting Miss Carrie Clarkson. Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Moon and son of Loganport, Ind., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Rogers.

Mrs. Sadie Atchison returned to Leavenworth today. The ladies of the Eastern Star surprised Dean Colwell Saturday evening by giving him a banquet. Mr. Colwell is chairman of the order and the surprise was given sooner than had been expected.

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SMOLEY HOKE! HAVE YOU READ "OUR CUT PRICES?" SCREENED SHAFT COAL \$3.00 PER TON. Topeka Coal Co. 6th and Kans. Ave. 1st and Jackson. A. F. HORNER.

NORTH TOPEKA. Items of Interest from the North Side of the River. C. G. Willett went to Kansas City today on a business trip. Shawnee Council No. 1, F. A. A., have purchased a new piano and will dedicate it by giving a musical and social entertainment tomorrow night.

A number of farmers were in town yesterday from Silver Lake and broken townships, who had been subpoenaed in the Turner case, to testify regarding the competency of one of the jurors in the latter trial. After conversing with some of them, Turner's attorney directed not to have them called.

A prominent North side business man, in conversation today regarding prospective business enterprises, expressed a belief that packing houses would be of more value to this city than any other enterprise involving the same amount of capital, woolen mills not excepted. He expressed a belief that it butchers and greengrocery men would refuse to buy any meat not slaughtered in the city it would be but a short time until the big packers would put in a plant here.

Amity lodge No. 261, K. of P., met in regular session last night and after hurriedly transacting the routine business adjourned to Lusk's opera house where they had invited a large number of their friends to meet them and join in a big banquet and ball. Friends and visiting knights were there in great numbers and when Bannister's orchestra played the grand march, there were forty couples in line on the floor. Many did not dance and many came late so that when auster of German music was begun to slaughter their own meat. Some buy from the home institution, but most dealers buy Kansas City goods.

Change of Firm. TOPEKA, KAN., Jan. 22, 1894. Having bought the Topeka Carpet Cleaning Works and Storage Co., we respectfully solicit your patronage. In cleaning carpet, we take second place to none, as we have a thorough knowledge of the business. Thomas & Jones, 114 West seventh street.

Do You Need a Plumber? Plumbers are said to be high priced, but we will surprise you by saving you 50 percent on your work. THE CO-OPERATIVE STEAM AND PLUMBING CO. 625 Quincy street.

Big Cut on All Coals. TOPEKA COAL CO. 1 dies! You can get domestic patterns at Babcock & Frost's, 706 Kansas avenue. Cut Price Shoe Sale, Payne's. Big Cut on All Coals. TOPEKA COAL CO.

GOODMAN BROS., PROPRIETORS. STAR MEAT MARKET. 841 NORTH KANSAS AVENUE. J. M. KNIGHT, ANTI-COMBINE UNDERTAKER. 404-406 KANS. AVE. AND 843 KANS. AVE., NORTH TOPEKA.

-A HAND SAW IS A GOOD THING, BUT NOT TO SHAVE WITH. SAPOLIO IS THE PROPER THING FOR HOUSE-CLEANING. Amusements. GRAND O-ERA HOUSE. MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, January 22, 23 and 24.

FANNY DAVENPORT Supported by MEL'ORNE MACDOWELL & COMPANY. Monday and Tuesday in Sardinou's CLEOPATRA. Wednesday Night, LA TOSCA.

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ONLY FOR A TIME YOU CAN BUY Wash Boilers, Galvanized Buckets, Steel Shovels, 1 Qt. Castorine, Tin Chamber Pail, Chopping Knife, Lamp Oil Stove. BUY GOLD COIN STOVES. Sheldon & Sheldon, 702 KANS. AVE.

TRY THE COLUMBIAN Restaurant and Lunch Counter. Q. A. HULL. TOPEKA LAND-CAPES GARDENING. BOTTOM PRICES ON COAL. E. P. EWART. PARTY CAKES & SALADS. TOPEKA EXCHANGE.